

PLATTEVILLE UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

Learn God ~ Love God ~ Share God ~ Serve God



When my younger brother was a child he loved Christmas. He actually still loves Christmas. When he was little he had a very difficult time waiting to open presents. He would excitedly say, "Is it time to open the presents yet?" And then his shoulders would slump if he was told no. He was the baby, so

he always got to open his presents first. He would bounce around the room until it was time. When it was time he would rip open the package and exuberantly say, "That's just what I wanted!"

Even now that he has children of his own, he is still the fun one at Christmas. He'll tell several of the children, "Go ask Grandma if it's time to open presents yet."

Christmas isn't as fun for me as it used to be. I can't go home for Christmas anymore. Oh, my mother has kindly changed when Christmas is celebrated so I can be there, but it's different than going to church together on Christmas Eve and then having dinner and opening presents. Even more, my children are grown and I don't have any grandchildren yet, so that fun is no longer there for me.

"Jesus is the reason for the season" has become cliché, but we each still have the best gift to open. "God so loved the world that he gave his only Son." John 3:16.

It is Advent, the time of waiting, not just to open Christmas presents, but to bring Christ fresh into our hearts.

Are you so excited? Are you having trouble waiting for Jesus to be born again in your heart? Are you looking forward to saying, "It's Jesus! It's just what I wanted!"

In your busyness this Advent, take some time to prepare your heart. Spend some time waiting. And then expect the best Christmas ever. It will be! You are getting Christ for Christmas this year!

I'll see you in church, where we wait in expectation together.

*Ave
Pastor
Brenda*



DECEMBER 2014

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Did you know:

- In 2012 there were 50 children identified as homeless in the Platteville school district alone.
- It is estimated that at any given time there are 70 homeless people living in Grant County
- About four to six times a year—for one week at a time—Host congregations provide overnight lodging, meals (supper, breakfast, and brown-bag lunch), and hospitality. Hosting rotates among the eight to thirteen Host congregations in the Affiliate, which provide lodging for three to five families (up to fourteen individuals) from 6:00 pm to 7:00 am the next morning.
- Volunteers are the heart of the Affiliate; without them, it cannot exist. Volunteers provide a variety of services: cooking and serving meals, playing with children or helping them with homework, and staying overnight.
- Guests use a local day center, space at a congregation or agency, from 8:00 am to 5:00 pm to shower, care for pre-school children, and seek employment. Many guests are employed during the day and go to work. During the school year, children go to school. The day center provides guests with a mailing address and a home base from which to conduct their housing search. The Director’s office will be at the day center.



Poinsettias



Would you like to order a poinsettia to share with the church this Christmas? Plants can be given in honor or in memory of someone important in your life. The plants can be ordered in red or white, and will come with foil wrap and with a bow. The cost for each plant is \$13.50. You may pick up your poinsettia following the 10:00 pm Christmas Eve Worship.

Please fill out and return this form to the church office **by December 12th.**

Name _____

Plants given in honor / in memory of _____

Total number of poinsettias: _____ Color of poinsettias: _____ red _____ white

Total Cost (\$13.50 per plant) _____ (checks made out to PUMC)

Thanksgiving Food Baskets were distributed to 15 families the week of Thanksgiving. Thank you for your generous support by providing food, paper and cleaning products for church families and community. Thank you for the monetary donations that was used to purchase fresh meat and fruits for the families. The mission committee greatly appreciates your support for mission in the Platteville community. We know our adopted families appreciate your generosity.

Christmas Food Baskets and Gifts ~ The mission committee will again be providing food baskets and gifts to needy family members of our church and community. Starting on Sunday, November 30th, the Giving Tree will be full of tags. Please take tag, write down on the sheet what tag you took, purchase and wrap the gift, place the tag from the tree on the outside of the box and return it to the church by Sunday, December 14. Monetary donations may be made out to the church with "Christmas gifts" indicated on the note line. Thank you again for your support!



Giving Tree for Adopted Families

The giving tree is up and full of tags! Take a tag or two and help our adopted families during the holidays.

Thank you for serving God by serving people.

Christmas Offering

The Mission Committee has designated that the Christmas offering be split between Engineers Without Borders: our Sunday School mission project, and Imagine No Malaria: our Wisconsin Annual Conference Mission Initiative

- Our Platteville chapter of Engineers Without Borders is building a school in Ghana. The children Skyped with David Ababio, one of the students involved in the project, while they were in Africa over the summer. He came to visit them in October to share pictures and stories
- Malaria kills a child in Africa every minute. The Global United Methodist Church has set a goal of raising 75 million dollars, which would eradicate the disease.

Offering in Christmas envelopes, checks that are marked, and loose cash on Christmas Eve will be considered Christmas offering. As always, you are welcome to designate your Christmas offering to our general fund, the elevator fund, or another ministry or mission project of your choice.



- 1 Jack Kirby
- 1 Darrell Henry
- 2 Betty Smith
- 3 Sarah Hasker
- 4 Bret Feist
- 9 Frances Allbaugh
- 12 Lisa Mumm
- 12 Logan Uppena
- 14 James Bailie
- 15 Jason Weigel
- 15 Anna Hilfer
- 16 Gene Digman
- 16 Kaylie Feist
- 16 Brooke Kuhls
- 17 Dan Griffiths
- 17 Christina Berning
- 18 Margaret Ambrosius
- 19 James Harle
- 20 Dawn Drake
- 21 Janice Steinback
- 21 Carrie Hardy
- 26 Ryan Wieters
- 26 Jordon Schulte
- 26 Shane Freiburger
- 26 Trenton Mumm
- 26 Nathan Mumm
- 29 Pastor Brenda
- 30 Joan Kuehl
- 30 Peg Burkard
- 31 Steve Lozeau
- 31 Adam Goninen

Anniversaries

- 2 Robert & Marlene Winkers
- 5 Richard & Eunice Dagnon
- 6 Keith & Arica Wanezek
- 6 Travis & Michelle Hromadka
- 17 Gary & Pam Craugh
- 22 Tom & LeeAnn Lindahl
- 23 Jim & Carol Kirkpatrick
- 27 Lenny & Sharon Glass
- 27 Merle & Beth Duggan
- 29 John & Deb Putnam



JUST THOUGHT YOU SHOULD KNOW

Our condolences go out to the family of Pam Smidt, who passed away on Sunday, November 16. Services for Pam were held on Saturday, November 22 at Platteville United Methodist Church. Burial took place in Postville IA.



**PASTOR BRENDA
TURNS 50 ON
DECEMBER
29TH.**

Let's shower her with cards!!! Cards can be sent to her home at:

2055 Maple Ridge Rd
Platteville

Do you know how to contact Pastor Brenda in an emergency? The CAP club does our regular visitation of those who are homebound or in nursing homes, but Pastor Brenda visits people who are in the hospital or are in other crisis situations. Please put Pastor Brenda's phone number in the contacts of your cell phone or write it in your phone book: 608-482-0021

PLATTE RIVER REGIONAL MINISTRY

Youth Group News

Mission Trip!!!! We will be finding out where we are going for Mission Trip in December! We have been notified that this year's cost will be \$500. That means that we have plenty of fundraising to do! J Our Little Caesar's Pizza Kit fundraiser helped us start our progress of raising money! We also will be doing a Rock-A-Thon in January, yard work during the spring months, a brat sale, and stocks to help fund this trip. Youth who participate in these fundraisers should have no problem raising money, and shouldn't have to pay anything for their trip. If your youth is interested in going on Mission Trip, please let Pastor Liz know!

The Rock-A-Thon is coming up in January! Youth will be receiving a pledge form on December 21st. The youth are challenged to rock *in a rocking chair* for 12 hours! They will collect pledges of a flat rate or based on number of hours rocked. We will rock the night away watching movies and having fun together. *All will need to provide their own rocking chair.* Our Rock-A-Thon will be held in the sanctuary of the Platteville Church.

Pioneer Wesley

Thank you for all of the people who supported Pioneer Wesley's Thanksgiving Dinner Fundraiser. It was a wonderful success! Also, a special thanks to Jennifer Fiedler for all her help! Here are a few pictures from the fun night.



Pioneer Wesley also has some other exciting news. We have again been approved as a student organization on the UW-Platteville Campus. This allows us to not only be able to better reach the students on campus, but be able to meet on campus at the Markee Student Center.

CHILDREN'S MINISTRY

December will be a busy month for our Sunday School children. We will be focusing on the Christmas story, in our classrooms and on the stage!!! Our children will present a Children's Christmas program on Sunday, Dec. 14, at the 11:00 worship service. The angels, shepherds, wise men and animals will tell and sing the wonderful story of Jesus' birth, in their charming and delightful way!

During the Advent season, the children will ask our congregation for their continued support for our mission project, UWP Engineers Without Borders school project in Ghana. Our students have been contributing their quarters



and dollars to help fund this school building project since Vacation Bible School last summer. They have raised \$1,150.51 so far!

The 4th-5th grade Sunday School class will host the Coffee Fellowship time and hold a bake sale on Dec. 7 between worship services to raise funds for the school.

Consider On-line Giving for your year-end donations!

In the course of year-end tax planning, you may find yourself considering special one-time donations. As you contemplate year-end gifts, please keep the church in mind. You can visit our church website at www.plattevillumc.org and click on the **DONATE** button.

Another advantage to using on-line giving is to ensure your year-end donations are recorded for the 2014 tax year. You won't need to worry about getting to the church office or post office in time.

However, if you prefer to write a check for your year-end donations they must be postmarked no later than December 31st or turned into the office by December 31st at noon.

Thank you for supporting the ministry and mission of the United Methodist Church!

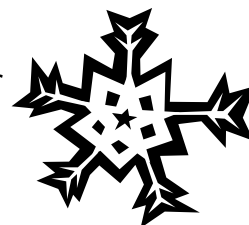


Prefer to use your smart phone? Simply scan the image you see here using your phone's QR code reader and it will take you directly to our church website.



Holiday Fair

As of November 2, the sign up sheets for the Christmas bazaar will be in the narthex. Please try to be generous with your talents and time for this fun activity. Remember that all the proceeds of the bazaar go to mission work locally and nationwide. Giving even one plate of cookies, one craft item or an hour of time helps the day go so smoothly. As other churches are dropping their Christmas bazaars, ours has remained a popular place to be on a December Saturday. There will be an organizational meeting for the bazaar on TUESDAY, NOV. 11 at 8:30am. Be a part of this great outreach activity!



Pecan Sales

The clipboard has been placed in the office for you to sign up for the number you wish to purchase. They are the same price as last year, \$10.00 a bag.

UNITED METHODIST WOMEN

December 2-UMW General Meeting at 1:30 PM in the Wesley Room

Program: Celebrating Christmas--Katie Cottingham

Hostess: Christmas cookies by members.

Will collect special Christmas Stocking money to go to Chaplaincy ministry.

NO Rebekah Meeting this month.

At our Nov. meeting we collected the our World Thank Offering. It has been a "vehicle" for mission giving for the UMW since 1881. Some of the money is used to work with partner-church women's groups. Such an arrangement takes place in Manila, in the Philippines.

For twenty years, families have lived in the National Cemetery, without electricity or water. The Kapatrian-Kaunlara Fdn., (KKFI), has been a long time partner of UMW in the Philippines.

Working with the Santa Mesa UMC, they trained teachers and began classes for 50 elementary-high school age children at the church. The children could not afford to go to school and felt the stigma of where/how they lived. Meals and a preschool were added later, along with transportation for the smallest children. Now young people are being trained for jobs, in hopes they can find work and cease to live in poverty among the tombs. Thank Offering Money at work among women, children, and youth.

Start your Offering collection now, for 2015. Whenever you are thankful (happy or sad) for something, put a coin(s) in a container to keep until next November.

To read more about the article, check out response, October 2014.

Be sure to buy your pecans in time for your holiday baking and for your holiday gifts. Thank You!!

WANTED: People to help knit prayer shawls and knit or crochet baby blankets.

Trustees Highlights for November

- Additional interior signage for the church is being investigated. The signage will help people unfamiliar with the church find their way.
- Civil Engineering students have been researching options to prevent ice dams on the roof and will present their findings at the December trustees meeting.
- Total funding of cash and pledges for the elevator has surpassed \$75,500. Only \$4,500 more is needed to reach the funding goal and begin the project.

Financial Report as of October 2014,

Monthly Income (Budget) = 20,398.00
 (Received from all sources)

Expenses (Budget) Incurred = 21,336.72

Difference = -938.72

As of October 2014,

Year to date Income (Budget) = 236,931.01
 (Received from all sources)

Expenses (Budget) Incurred = 240,202.47

Difference = -3,271.46

The Cap Club met on Nov 11th, members present were Pastor Brenda, Tom Lindahl, Dee Gray, Tom and Nancy Ziegenfuss, Hank and Judy Bossenbroek.

We all signed and addressed the Christmas Cards that will be sent to our shut in friends.

We all what to wish everyone a very Blessed Christmas and a healthy New Year.

The Cap Club

Holiday Fair

Sat, Dec. 6, 2014

Platteville United Methodist Church
 1065 Lancaster St, Platteville, WI

Coffee & Rolls, 8:00 am

Bazaar opens at 9:00 am

*Sweet Shop / Baked Goods
 *Specialty Cookies by the Pound
 *(homemade by Methodist Bakers)
 *Cranmy's Attic
 *Gifts and Decorations

Lunch, 11:00 am-1:00 pm

*Menu:
 Hot Turkey & Dressing Sandwiches
 Pulled-Pork Sandwiches
 Salads
 Homemade Pies and Cakes
 Beverages



Barely Seniors Potluck and Program

Thursday, December 11 at Noon

Please bring a dish to pass.

Program will be Jim Holler will share with us his musical journey with guitar and vocals.. His music will include some Gospel, Blue Grass, Old Time Country and Christmas carols.

A Gift Exchange will be held--Please bring a wrapped gift(approximately \$5 value) with a W marked for Woman and a M for Man



Just a reminder that the holidays are approaching and SCRIP makes good Christmas gifts. Also, it can be used for everyday needs such as gas, groceries, dining out, and much more. No order is too little. Every SCRIP card earns a profit for PUMC. SCRIP orders may be filled out and given to Jennifer in the church office. Orders are placed each Tuesday and are available for pickup on Friday. Plan ahead and pre-order all cards that you may need for the holidays so that they will be here in time for your gift giving.

Order forms are available at the information booth.

Office Hours

9:00 a.m.—4:00 p.m.; Monday-Friday

Contact Information

Office: 608-348-9508

Fax: 608-348-9509

E-mail: plattevilleumc@centurylink.net

Web: www.plattevilleumc.org

Senior Pastor

Rev. Brenda Whitford

pastorbrenda@centurylink.net

608-482-0021

Associate Pastor

Rev. Elizabeth Whitford

pastorliz@centurylink.net

608-482-2303

Administrative Assistant

Jennifer Fiedler

plattevilleumc@centurylink.net

Business Manager

Amy Loeffelholz

amyloeffelholz@centurylink.net

Sunday School Superintendent

Ellen Carnahan

ellen.carnahan@yahoo.com

December Usher Schedule

8:30 a.m.

11:00 a.m. Dan & Deb Dunbar

December Readers Schedule

December 7	8:30 a.m.	Don Shaw
	11:00 a.m.	Amy Pohle
December 14	8:30 a.m.	Ellen Carnahan
	11:00 a.m.	Mike Mair
December 21	8:30 a.m.	Nancy Fairchild
	11:00 a.m.	Debby Schroedl
December 28	8:30 a.m.	Elizabeth Whitford
	11:00 a.m.	Deb Dunbar

December Greeters Schedule

December 7	8:30 a.m.	Carolyn Woodward
	11:00 a.m.	Lora Bishell
December 14	8:30 a.m.	Jane Rupp
	11:00 a.m.	Scanlan Family
December 21	8:30 a.m.	Lynn Dew & Sharon Glass
	11:00 a.m.	Joe & Alice Clifton
Christmas Eve	5:00 pm	Tom & LeeAnn Lindahl
	10:00 pm	Tom & Nancy Ziegenfuss
December 28	8:30 a.m.	Hank & Judy Bossenbroek
	11:00 a.m.	Pohle Family

December Advent Candle Schedule

December 7	8:30 a.m.	Fairchild/Koeller Families
	11:00 a.m.	OPEN
December 14	8:30 a.m.	Max & Rosemary Anderson
	11:00 a.m.	Timlin Family
December 21	8:30 a.m.	Scanlan Family
	11:00 a.m.	OPEN
Christmas Eve	5:00 pm	Hollingsworth Family
		Shaw Family
		Deb & Lauren Becker
	10:00 pm	Carnahan Family

*December Worship
Schedule***December 7**

Mary's Story

Luke 1:26-38

Communion both services

8:30 Mallow Ringers

11:00 Blind Faith Band

December 14

8:30 Joseph's Story

Matthew 1:18-25

Special Music TBD

11:00 Sunday School Christmas Program

Blind Faith Band

December 21

Music Sunday!

December 24th

5:00pm Family Service

10:00pm Candlelight Service

December 28

God With Us

John 1:1-14

8:30 Special Music TBD

11:00 Blind Faith Band

November Children's Message

December 7—Ellen Carnahan

December 14—Christmas Program

December 21—Sara Koeller

December 28—Pastor Liz

November Coffee Hour Hosts



December 7—Sunday School

December 14—OPEN

December 21—OPEN

December 28—OPEN

DECEMBER 2014

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
	1 6:45 am Breakfast Prayer Group @ Country Kitchen 5:15 pm Yoga w/Val	2 1:30 pm UMW 6:00 pm Choir Practice	3 5:15 pm Yoga w/Val 6:00 pm <i>Worship Committee</i> 7:00 pm Redeemer Practice	4 3:45 pm School Bus Caf� 7:00 <i>Trustees</i>	5	6 UMW Christmas Fair
7 8:30 am Worship 9:45 am Sunday School 11:00 am Worship 7:00 pm Youth Group	8 5:15 pm Yoga w/Val	9 5:00 pm <i>Missions</i> 6:00 pm Choir Practice	10 5:15 pm Yoga w/Val 6:00 pm Confirmation 7:00 pm Redeemer Practice	11 12:00 pm Barely Seniors 3:45 pm School Bus Caf� 6:00 pm <i>Church Council</i> 7:00 pm <i>Finance</i>	12	13
14 8:30 am Worship 9:45 am Sunday School 11:00 am Worship Children's Christmas Program 6:00 pm Mallow Ringers 7:00 pm Youth Group	15 5:15 pm Yoga w/Val	16 6:00 pm Choir Practice	17 5:15 pm Yoga w/Val 7:00 pm Redeemer Practice 6:30 pm Extreme Self Care	18 3:45 pm School Bus Caf� 7:00 pm <i>SPRC</i>	19 <i>Newsletter Deadline</i>	20
21 <i>Music Sunday</i> 8:30 am Worship 9:30 am Brunch 9:45 am Sunday School 7:00 pm Youth Group	22 5:15 pm Yoga w/Val	23 6:00 pm Choir Practice	24 5:00 pm Family Service 10:00 pm Candlelight Service	25  Office Closed	26 Office Closed	27
28 8:30 am Worship 9:45 am Sunday School 11:00 am Worship	29 12:00 pm Newsletter Assembled <i>Brenda on Vacation</i>	30 <i>December 29-January 12</i>	31 Office Closing at Noon	January 1  Office Closed	2 Office Closed	



PLATTEVILLE UNITED
METHODIST CHURCH

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&

[WWW.FACEBOOK.COM/
PLATTEVILLEUMC](http://WWW.FACEBOOK.COM/PLATTEVILLEUMC)

If you would no longer like to receive this newsletter, please contact the church office to take your name off the mailing list. Thank you!

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Return Service Requested

Childrens Christmas Program*

Sunday, December 14

11:00 am*



Music Sunday

Sunday, December 21

Both services

Christmas Eve

Wednesday, December 24

5:00 pm Family Worship

10:00 pm Traditional Worship

